



3738

Docket No. HRT-0279

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : S. Boyd et al.

Serial No. : 09/982,502

Art Unit: 3738

Filed : October 19, 2001

Examiner:

For : Devices and Methods for Port-Access Multivessel Coronary ARtery Bypass Surgery

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

July 19, 2002

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(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this

information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with the first or second After Final Submission, therefore:

- Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)
(attached); or
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the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final

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(attached); or
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the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

- Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.
- Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:
 - In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.
 - If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.
- Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted

to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 09/487,024, filed 1/19/00, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/281,891, filed 7/28/94, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,735,290, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/023,778, filed 2/22/93, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,452,733.

There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

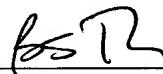
The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

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Respectfully submitted,



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 1 of 1

<i>Application Number</i>	09/982,502
<i>Filing Date</i>	October 19, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	S. Boyd et al.
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	3738
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Not Assigned
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	HRT-0279

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
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Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	KindCode ⁵				
		CA	2,171,097	A1	Evard	03-30-1995		
		UK	2 140 695	A	Hengstberger et al.	12/5/84		
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		WO	92/21298			12/92		
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		WO	93/18712			9/93		
		WO	93/20741			10/93		
		WO	95/08364		Stanford Surgical Technologies, Inc.	3/30/95		
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

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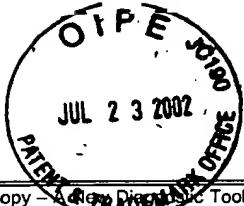
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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITOL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		File History of Reexamination No. 90/005,995 for U.S. Patent No. 5,927,284 as of 7/3/01	
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Examiner
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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